



Michigan's Oral Health Authority Dedicated to the Public and the Profession

To: Members of the House of Representatives Health Policy Committee

From: Caroline M. Ruddell, Director of Legislative and Insurance Advocacy

Re: House Bill 5614

Date: January 19, 2010

Position: **Support**

The Michigan Dental Association (MDA), on behalf of its 5,500 member dentists, requests your support of House Bill 5614.

This legislation would give health occupational boards the ability to issue cease and desist orders to non-licensed individuals practicing a licensed health profession. Members of the health occupational boards are recognized experts in their fields.

The MDA believes unlicensed individuals practicing dentistry pose a serious risk to the health of the public. All licensed dentists have four years of undergraduate education, in addition to four years of dental school. Dental specialists have additional years of training beyond dental school. Only dentists are trained to properly diagnose and treat the oral health care needs of the public.

Thank you for your support of this legislation if you have questions please contact me at 517-346-9423 or cruddell@michigandental.org.